

Message

From: Niemi, Cheryl (ECY) [cnie461@ECY.WA.GOV]
Sent: 3/10/2014 5:18:01 PM
To: Braley, Susan (ECY) [SUBR461@ECY.WA.GOV]; Szlag, Matthew [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f1e48230d96943f8acb72810e32ce8d6-Szlag, Matthew]; mgil461@ECY.WA.GOV [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c7ab63dfcb56401284b16f8d24341337-mgil461@ECY.WA.GOV]
CC: Chung, Angela [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b3e49fcb1ad46f1bdbe92ebb4936350-Chung, Angela]
Subject: RE: ammonia/recreation criteria letter

Interesting. Seems unusual to me that EPA is sending a letter regarding these two criteria in particular. Any idea why they are getting such special attention - more than all the other ongoing criteria revisions - seems pretty unusual to have a letter come out that focuses so strongly on two specific revisions.

Two points below:

1. Ammonia is part of the toxics table so I have assumed we will consider that revision when we start the AQL revisions. Would like to see the ID and OR ESA/CWA AQL consultations completed prior to us jumping into that task. Do not want WA to jump down a rabbit hole without knowing what's at the bottom.
2. In the meantime, if a letter is sent everyone please try to make sure that it cannot be construed to be a formal EPA finding that state's (in this case Washington's) current CWA-approved criteria are not protective of the uses (unless that is truly what it is meant to be)!

Lots of interesting work ahead of us!

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-----Original Message-----

From: Braley, Susan (ECY)
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 9:27 AM
To: Szlag, Matthew; Gildersleeve, Melissa (ECY); Niemi, Cheryl (ECY)
Cc: Chung, Angela
Subject: RE: ammonia/recreation criteria letter

I can't really say when the next "triennial review" will be. Last time we counted 3 years from when EPA approved our standards in 2008. If we use that rationale again, we would count 3 years from when you approve the standards we plan to adopt by the end of 2014.

-----Original Message-----

From: Szlag, Matthew [mailto:Szlag.Matthew@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 2:04 PM
To: Braley, Susan (ECY); Gildersleeve, Melissa (ECY); Niemi, Cheryl (ECY)
Cc: Chung, Angela
Subject: RE: ammonia/recreation criteria letter

Hi Susan,
Thanks for those suggestions. I think we have the ability to modify the letters to a certain extent, so I don't anticipate it being an issue to reference the five-year plan document/triennial review. I agree that it's nice that both of those items are already included in the plan, so that helps, but I also understand the uncertainty regarding timing. Is there a general timeframe you are targeting for the next triennial review? I know we are using that mechanism for some of the states that are soon beginning one, but I'm not sure what your plans are for the next one as it's obvious you have your hands full right now.

As we get closer to sending the letter, maybe we can re-engage a bit and perhaps even share a draft.

Melissa - I typically haven't been involved in the PPA process so I'm not entirely sure how adding things works, but I would think we could. Angela - did you envision bringing this up in the PPAs with our other states?

Thanks for your thoughts.

Matt

From: Braley, Susan (ECY) <SUBR461@ECY.WA.GOV>
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 12:36 PM
To: Szelag, Matthew; mgil461@ECY.WA.GOV; cnie461@ecy.wa.gov
Cc: Chung, Angela
Subject: RE: ammonia/recreation criteria letter

Thanks Matt for the heads up. If you are going to personalize these letters to the states, I think it would be helpful to reference our triennial review and perhaps use that as the vehicle to cue these up. We have our five year plan for reference (yes, I know that transcends the next triennial review but it let's people know what we are thinking about longer term!).

We do have the bacterial indicators on the five year plan starting in FY15 with a rule in FY16. So we did anticipate EPA national criteria updates.

Ammonia did not make it on this list--unless it somehow gets lumped in with the toxics-Aquatic Life criteria, which we have listed in the same timeframe (work in FY 15, rule in FY16). I think that's a legitimate assumption.

Of course, this is all subject to our current work on the HHC and if that takes longer than expected it may impact our anticipated start dates for the others, but I'm sure that's already occurred to you!

Thanks--Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Szelag, Matthew [mailto:Szelag.Matthew@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 10:29 AM
To: Gildersleeve, Melissa (ECY); Braley, Susan (ECY); Niemi, Cheryl (ECY)
Cc: Chung, Angela
Subject: ammonia/recreation criteria letter

Hi Melissa, Susan and Cheryl,

EPA HQ is asking the Regions to send letters to our states encouraging the adoption of EPA's new national recommended criteria for recreation and ammonia aquatic life. I've attached an example letter that was sent to Connecticut so you can get a general idea.

We wanted to give you a heads up that we will likely be sending some version of this letter to you in April - recognizing that it needs to somehow fit in among all the other priorities you are working on. I just left Cheryl a voicemail to let her know about this as well. We can talk about that further, but before we send the letters, we are curious if you have any feedback or questions you'd like to discuss? I know this is a very busy time for you, so please let us know when you have a chance.

Thanks in advance.

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